

FIRE RESTRICTION ORDERED FOR PORTIONS OF UTAH

Increasing fire danger has resulted in a Stage I fire restriction order for a large portion of the state. The fire restriction prohibits the use of fireworks, as well as open fires or camp fires except in a developed recreation site. Smoking is also prohibited except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or in an area which has been cleared of all flammable materials. The use of propane stoves is not prohibited.

The fire restriction takes effect at 12:01 a.m., July 2, 2001 and will remain in effect until rescinded.

The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, has included the following areas in the restriction:

- Private, state and federal lands in Cache, Rich, Box Elder, Weber, Davis, Morgan, Tooele, Summit, Wasatch and Utah counties, except Manti La Sal National Forest lands in Utah County.
- Lands of the Wasatch/Cache, Uinta and Ashley National Forests located in Salt Lake, Daggett, Uintah and Duchesne counties.
- The High Uinta Wilderness Area located on the Ashley and Wasatch/Cache National Forests is excluded.
- Private, state and Bureau of Land Management lands in Salt Lake County east of Wasatch Boulevard from I-80 south to Draper; south of Highland Drive in Draper; south of 13400 South in Riverton and Herriman; and west of State Road U111 to Great Salt Lake.
- The order does not apply within the boundaries of incorporated cities and towns.

“Our increasingly hot weather brings with it a corresponding increase in the number of wildland fires, especially due to the misuse of fireworks,” said Acting State Forester Ed Storey. “We anticipate the fire danger to remain high and are asking everyone to pay careful attention to campfires and other sources of fire, especially fireworks.”

Recreationists are also reminded that if their carelessness causes a fire, they may be held financially responsible for the costs associated with putting it out. In even the smallest of wildland fires, those costs easily rise into the thousands of dollars.

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